

FEEL THE PULSE

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1945

WE PLEDGE
A MILLION DOLLARS
WILL AVOID BOMBING
FOR VICTORY
FOR THE
LITTLE STATE FORMULA INTO AN
VOL. 35, NO. 9

WHOLE NO. 1768

WILLIAM GREEN, President

GEORGE MEANY, Secretary-Treasurer

Drive Opens To Kill Labor Penalties As Senate Debates Manpower Bill

Washington, D. C.—As the Senate opened debate on the amendment to the McNamara-Kilgore Manpower Bill, AFL President William Green sent a letter to all Senators demanding the defeat of the Austin amendment providing fines and jail sentences for violators.

"This amendment," Mr. Green declared, "is unnecessary and highly objectionable. The penalties are unnecessary and will only serve to increase the cost of living."

"Enforcement of the bill can be without any change in the law," he said, "and we will not support it."

Legislation must be passed, the committee bill with the Austin amendment eliminated from it would not be so drastic nor so bitterly unpopular."

Immediately two Senators—Kilgore

AFL War Hero Loses Three Limbs, But Says 'I'm Lucky To Be Alive'

Washington, D. C.—"I'm lucky to be alive." That is the attitude expressed by Corp. Ralph A. Brown from a bed of pain at Walter Reed Hospital where he is convalescing after having lost both legs and right arm when Nazi planes blasted the tank in which he was riding last September in France.

Corp. Brown, who is a member of the AFL's International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Local No. 377, also suffered a compound fracture of his remaining left arm and it is now only partially restored to use. His is the only triple amputation case reported in this war.

Despite his misfortunes, Brown is cheerful and philosophical about his injuries. He says:

"I'll get along."

His attitude is inspirational to other wounded soldiers at the hospital, and the War Department believes that when his fellow soldiers get to know about it, they too, will want to pitch in harder than ever before to help win the war in the shortest time possible.

The wounded veteran, whose mother, Mrs. Mary Brown, lives at 24 E. Broadway St., Youngstown, worked for the Isaly Dairy Co. at that time, joined the Army in March, 1943.

As a gunner on a Sherman tank with the Sixth Armored Division, Brown was on a patrol through enemy-held territory when his vehicle came across 3 ammunition trucks hidden behind a French farmhouse.

A direct hit on the tank. Brown was pulled out, almost dead, by his buddies who drove him immediately to a battalion aid station. Prompt medical treatment saved his life.

The tank in which he was wounded was the second Sherman lost by the 6th Armored during their arrival in France on September 1, 1944.

Thereafter, Brown was back at base headquarters when his tank was smashed.

"If I'd been there then, I might have been killed," he commented. "I'm lucky to be alive."

Housing—Action Aids Down The Line

By HARRY C. BATES

Chairman AFL Housing Committee

(We present herewith the sixth of a series of articles by Mr. Bates, President of the Frick, McKim, and McKim, Inc., on the housing problem with which he is personally acquainted.)

Without continuous administrative coordination and long range planning, the war toward the achievement of adequate housing for the millions of people of this country is a task of the future. Such research and planning is not the province of a single, central group trying to master plan America's future to suit the needs of the present.

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Aggression And Oppression Must Go After United Victory, Green Says

New York City—Final victory over our enemies in this war will not mean the end of the struggle for the achievement of the peaceful world which we stand for.

AFL President William Green declared at a dinner to Senator Robert Wagner in the New York Hotel.

"Dictatorship and human slavery must be abolished," he said. "The world must be free of these evils."

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SECY PERKINS ATTACKS EQUAL RIGHTS MEASURE

Washington, D. C.—During the conference, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins attacked the "equal rights" amendment to the Constitution now pending in Congress.

"I see no sense in tugging up the Constitution to pass a 'Constitutional' measure which, while it would seem desirable, would in fact be a hardy calculation on all laws now on the books designed to protect women workers from exploitation."

AFL WINS BIG VICTORY IN AIRCRAFT PLANT VOTE

Hartford, Conn.—The AFL won a smashing victory in the NLRB election conducted among the employees of the busy Pratt & Whitney aircraft plant.

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Board's Delay And Deception Bared Favorable View of Little State Formula

Washington, D. C.—The unjust and deceptive nature of the report of the public members of the National War Labor Board in which they decided, despite the obvious facts, that wages have kept pace with the cost of living, was exposed in the dissenting opinion filed by the AFL members.

Adherence to the historical pattern of wage regulation by control of wages would have forced the public members to recommend a substantial increase in the Little State Formula.

The labor members have accepted the burden of wage control by regulation of wages rates. They adhere still to that position. The modification in the position of the public members is fairly interpreted to mean that to continue their successful achievement of wage stabilization they are willing to proceed in this manner.

There is a fundamental defect in the adjusted earnings record in which the labor members object. Spontaneous wage increases, which represent adjustments in wages to particular industry conditions, are not taken into account.

"Historically, the National War Labor Board has had a high degree of success by controlling wages. To be sure, the high cost of living has forced it to do so."

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NWLB Finding Keeping Wage Formula Assailed by AFL

Washington, D. C.—Sharply rejecting the NWLB formula into an effective order and thus made it part of the nation's stabilization program, the AFL group contended that the President to make the final decision as to whether the formula should now be changed.

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Higher Post-War Living Standards Depend On Jobs For All, Says Ruml

New York City—Readily Ruml, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, predicted that there would be a 40 per cent rise in the standard of living in this country after the war and declared that to provide such a standard President Roosevelt's goal of 60,000,000 productive jobs must be attained.

Mr. Ruml said enduring national prosperity in the post-war world would depend on two things—a high level of employment and a higher standard of living.

Speaking at a meeting of the National Association of Public Education at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, he asserted that the nation's education system must be maintained at a high level to meet the needs of a national prosperity. There cannot be a higher standard of living, he emphasized, unless education teaches Americans the great lesson of cooperation.

"A higher standard of living and full employment go hand in hand," he said. "The nation must have a higher standard of living than it has today. There must be a higher standard of living than it has today."

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PHILADELPHIA LABOR TO FORM LEGION POST

Philadelphia—An American Legion post of union members will be formed in the city, according to the plan of the Philadelphia Labor Union.

Plans for its formation were announced by James McHenry, president of the Philadelphia Labor Union, at a meeting of the union last night.

The plan of the Legion has always been identical with the aims of the American Legion. It is to establish a labor post here among the workers of the city.

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